



**Department of Energy Environmental Management Consolidated Business Center  
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**For Immediate Release**

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## **DOE Extends Contract for Fernald Site Waste Storage**

**Cincinnati --** The DOE Office of Environmental Management will issue a \$ 4.4 million contract modification to Waste Control Specialists, LLC (WCS) of Dallas, Texas, today for the continued interim storage of 3,776 containers of Fernald Closure Project Silos 1 and 2 uranium production byproduct materials at the WCS facility in western Texas.

The contract modification is a fixed-price extension of the current contract with WCS and extends the period of storage from June 2007 through October 2009.

The former Fernald site, in southwest Ohio, produced more than 500 million pounds of pure uranium products for the nation's defense program from 1951 to 1989, playing a key role in the Cold War effort. Part of the site cleanup and closure process was remediation and removal of wastes generated in the uranium production process. The Silos 1 and 2 waste removal was an important milestone in the Fernald Closure Project that was completed in December 2006. Fernald currently is being transformed into a nature preserve while the DOE Office of Legacy Management provides ongoing surveillance management and groundwater remediation.

Originally, the material stored at WCS was to be permanently disposed within 24 months (June 2007) of the first shipment of material. In May 2007, the US Environmental Protection Agency granted an extension to the milestone for permanent disposal to October 2009.

WCS is working to obtain a permit to become a permanent storage site for the containers. DOE is evaluating alternatives and other contingencies for permanent disposal should WCS fail to obtain a permanent disposal license prior to October 2009.

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